

1 1. A data storage system for transferring data between a host computer/server and a  
2 bank of disk drives through a system interface, such system interface comprising:  
3 a plurality of first directors coupled to the host computer/server;  
4 a plurality of second directors coupled to the bank of disk drives;  
5 a cache memory; and  
6 wherein there are separate point-to-point data paths between each one of the directors  
7 and the global cache memory.

1 ~~Sub 2~~ 2. The system recited in claim 1 including a backplane and wherein the cache  
2 memory and the directors are interconnected through the backplane.

1 3. The system recited in claim 2 wherein the backplane is a printed circuit board.

1 4. A data storage system for transferring data between a host computer/server and a  
2 bank of disk drives through a system interface, such system interface comprising:  
3 a plurality of first directors coupled to the host computer/server;  
4 a plurality of second directors coupled to the bank of disk drives;  
5 a cache memory;  
6 a data transfer section coupled to the plurality of first directors, the second directors,  
7 and the cache memory;  
8 a messaging network coupled to the plurality of first directors and the plurality of  
9 second directors, such first and second directors controlling data transfer between the host  
10 computer and the bank of disk drives in response to messages passing between the directors  
11 through the messaging network as such data passes through the memory via the data transfer  
12 section;  
13 wherein there are separate point-to-point data paths between each one of the directors  
14 and the global cache memory.

1 5. The system recited in claim 4 including a backplane and wherein the cache  
2 memory and the directors are interconnected through the backplane.

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6. The system recited in claim 5 wherein the backplane is a printed circuit board.

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